

**Listing of Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A shrinking device (2, 70) for shrinking a tool (12) into a tool holder (11, 68) of a tool chuck (10), having, the shrinking device comprising:

a heating device (14, 52, 72) for heating the tool holder (11, 68), characterized by: and  
a gas suction device (16) for evacuating gases (32, 84) escaping from the tool holder (11, 68).

2. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (2, 70) as claimed in claim 1, characterized by further comprising a gas-conducting unit (18, 62, 98) for conducting gas (32, 84) from a holder opening (34) of the tool holder (11, 68) to a gas inlet opening (38, 90) of the gas suction device (16).

3. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (2, 70) as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized by further comprising a gas-conducting unit (18, 62, 98) which encompasses a negative pressure region (36, 88), the gas-conducting unit (18, 62, 98) being provided for maintaining a negative pressure in the negative pressure region (36, 88) relative to an external region of the gas-conducting unit (18, 62, 98) and a pressure drop from a holder opening (34, 82) of the tool holder (11, 68) to the negative pressure region (36, 88).

4. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (2) as claimed in claim 2 ~~or 3~~, characterized in that wherein the heating device (14, 52) annularly encompasses the tool

holder (11) and the gas-conducting unit (18, 62) is designed as a hood on the heating device (14, 52).

5. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (2, 70) as claimed in ~~one of~~ claims 2 to 4, claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the heating device (14, 52, 72) forms part of the gas-conducting unit (18, 62, 98).

6. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (2) as claimed in ~~one of claims 2 to 5~~ claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the heating device (14, 52) has gas ducts (48, 54, 56, 58) which are provided for gas (32) to flow through during the operation of the gas suction device (16).

7. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (2) as claimed in ~~claims 3 and 6~~ claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the gas ducts (48) are connected to the negative pressure region (36) by a gas line (50).

8. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (2) as claimed in ~~claims 3 and 6~~ claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the gas ducts (54, 56, 58) open into the negative pressure region (36).

9. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (2, 70) shrinking device (2) as claimed in ~~one of claims 2 to 8~~ claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the tool chuck (10) has an upper end surface (80) arranged at one end of the tool holder (68) and the gas-conducting unit (18, 62, 98) completely surrounds the tool holder (68) above the end surface (80).

10. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (70) as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized by further comprising~~ a shielding element (78, 102) for resting on an upper end surface (80) arranged at one end of the tool holder (68), the shielding element (78, 102) having a gas-conducting duct (86, 104) for conducting gas (64) out of the holder opening (82).

11. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (70) as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the shielding element (78, 102) is provided for shielding a tool (12), which is inserted into the tool holder (68), from a magnetic field generated by the heating device (72).

12. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (70) as claimed in claim 10 ~~or 11~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the shielding element (78, 102) is provided as a stop element for positioning the heating device (72).

13. (Currently amended) The shrinking device (70) as claimed in ~~one of claims 10 to 12~~ claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the shielding element (78) upwardly closes off the holder opening (82) in such a manner that gases (84) rising out of the holder opening (82) can only leave the holder opening (82) upward through at least one gas-conducting duct (86) in the shielding element (78).

14. (Currently amended) A method for shrinking a tool (12) into a tool holder (11, 68) of a tool chuck (10), the method comprising:

~~in which~~ heating the tool holder (11, 68) is heated by a heating device (14, 52, 72),

; and

~~characterized in that~~ evacuating gases (32, 84) are evacuated from the tool holder (11, 68) with the aid of a gas suction device (16).